

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

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AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 179536

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, MARR, UNGA

SUBJECT: NORDIC AND US PROPOSALS ON UN PEACEKEEPING

REF: STATE 208389

1. IN HIS REPORT TO CONGRESS ON UN REFORM (MARCH 2, 1978)
THE PRESIDENT PROPOSED THE STRENGTHENING OF UN PEACE-
KEEPING CAPABILITIES. OUR VIEWS ON HOW THIS MIGHT BEST
BE DONE WERE SUBSEQUENTLY CONTAINED IN THE US RESPONSE
TO GA RESOLUTION 32/106 (TEXT OF RESPONSE IS CONTAINED
IN PARA 3 REFTTEL).

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2. IN CONSIDERING FURTHER HOW BEST TO PURSUE OUR
OBJECTIVES ON PEACEKEEPING, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT NORDIC
GOVERNMENTS MIGHT WELL SERVE AS PARTNERS IN THE EFFORT,
AND PERHAPS MIGHT EVEN BE WILLING TO TAKE THE LEAD.
NORDICS HAVE A LONG HISTORY OF OUTSTANDING SUPPORT FOR
UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS. MOREOVER, THEY HAVE MADE
PARTICIPATION IN PEACEKEEPING AN ELEMENT OF TRAINING IN

THEIR ARMED FORCES AND HAVE EXPERIENCE IN CONSIDERING
THE PROFESSIONAL MILITARY PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN PEACE-
KEEPING. JOINT NORDIC COMMITTEE FOR MILITARY UN MATTERS

WILL BE MEETING SOON. THE MATTER MAY ALSO BE ON THE
AGENDA OF NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN STOCKHOLM,
AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 1, WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERING
UNGA ISSUES, AMONG OTHERS.

3. ACCORDINGLY, ACTION ADDRESSEES SHOULD APPROACH
FOREIGN MINISTRY AND DRAW UPON FOLLOWING:

-- WE ARE CONSIDERING HOW MOST EFFECTIVELY TO PURSUE
THE STRENGTHENING OF UN PEACEKEEPING CAPABILITY.
PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ENDORSED SUCH AN EFFORT. ON THAT
BASIS, WE HAVE ELABORATED SOME OF OUR VIEWS IN A RESPONSE
TO GA RESOLUTION 32/106 (HERE YOU MIGHT WISH TO PROVIDE
THE TEXT OF PARA 3 REFTEL).

-- WE WOULD WELCOME NORDIC VIEW ON PROSPECTS FOR
STRENGTHENING UN PEACEKEEPING CAPABILITIES. WE HAVE
AN OPEN MIND ON HOW THIS OBJECTIVE MIGHT BEST BE
ACHIEVED AND WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE NORDIC GOVERNMENTS
HAVE SPECIAL CAPABILITY, CREDIBILITY AND EXPERIENCE
IN THIS AREA.

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-- FOR THOSE REASONS, AND OUT OF CONVICTION THAT UN
PEACEKEEPING IS INDISPENSABLE IN DEALING WITH A VARIETY
OF INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS, WE WOULD WELCOME THE
OPPORTUNITY OF DISCUSSING OUR PROPOSALS AND ANY OTHER
IDEAS WHICH THE NORDIC GOVERNMENTS MIGHT HAVE IN THIS
AREA. WE ARE PREPARED, FOR EXAMPLE, TO COOPERATE AND
COORDINATE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A PROGRAM WHICH
WOULD MAKE UN PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES MORE EFFICIENT
AND RESPONSIVE. WE WOULD HAVE IN MIND ADVANCING SUCH
IDEAS AT THE FORTHCOMING GA.

-- WE HOPE THAT THE NORDIC COMMITTEE ON UN MATTERS MIGHT
BE ABLE TO CONSIDER SOME OF OUR IDEAS AND OUR OFFER OF
COOPERATION AND THAT THE NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS MIGHT
DO THE SAME WHEN THEY MEET AT THE END OF AUGUST.

-- WE ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS IN
CONSIDERABLE DETAIL AT ANY TIME SUITABLE TO THE NORDIC
GOVERNMENTS.

CHRISTOPHER

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